

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 04168 272305Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SNM-02 DEAE-00
JUSE-00 HEW-06 /061 W
-----281740Z 097921 /47

R 271621Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 480
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS MADRID 4168

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR,SP
SUBJECT: SPANISH PRESS CLAIMS US TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA USE

REF: STATE 57055; STATE 57056

1. MADRID DAILY "EL PAIS", MAY 27, CARRIES FULL-PAGE ARTICLE BY ALFONSO GARCIA PEREZ, ENTITLED: "MORE THAN HALF OF YOUNG AMERICANS SMOKE MARIJUANA-LEGALIZATION OF ITS USE HAS STARTED IN US". REPORT CITES FIGURES FROM GALLUP POLL THAT INDICATE MARIJUANA USE UP FROM 12 PER CENT OF POPULATION TO 24 PER CENT BETWEEN 1973 AND 1977. BROKEN DOWN BY AGE GROUP STUDY REPORTEDLY SHOWS OVER HALF OF 18-24 YEARS GROUP "HABITUALLY" USE DRUG. REPORT ALSO DESCRIBES STUDY OF "JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION (SIC)" WHICH ESTABLISHED THAT NO BRAIN DAMAGE DONE TO SUBJECTS WHO SMOKED AVERAGE NINE MARIJUANA CIGARETTES OVER DAILY PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

2. ALTHOUGH ARTICLE CORRECTLY REPORTS TESTIMONY BY PETER BOURNE AND DR. DUPONT CALLING FOR "DECRIMINALIZATION" IT GOES ON TO DESCRIBE PREPARATIONS OF LARGE US FIRMS TO PRODUCE AND SELL "PACKETS OF MARIJUANA

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CIGARETTES AT A GOOD PRICE". GENERAL THEME OF ARTICLE IS THAT MARIJUANA, LIKE ALCOHOL, IS NOW ACCEPTABLE IN US FOR PURPOSES "LIBERATING INDIVIDUAL TO EXPRESS MOST PROFOUND IMPULSES" WHICH OTHERWISE ARE SMOTHERED BY RIGID EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND SOCIAL RIGIDITIES.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY PLANS TO SEND COPY OF DR. BOURNE'S STATEMENT

(STATE 57056) TO MR. GARCIA PEREZ, WHO IS "EL PAIS" SCIENCE
AFFAIRS WRITER, WITH BRIEF NOTE EMPHASIZING DISTINCTION BETWEEN
DECRIMINALIZATION AND LEGALIZATION. STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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